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**Office of Environmental Management (EM)**
*safety • performance • cleanup • closure*

JOURNEY TO EXCELLENCE

PROJECT OF THE MONTH

MEDIA GALLERY

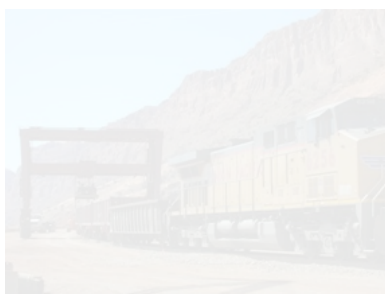
RECOVERY ACT

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## Packaging and Transportation



Loading of containers on rail car using straddle crane at MOAB site.

The U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) packaging and transportation mission is to (1) develop the systems and technologies to ensure packaging and transportation activities are safe, economical, efficient, secure, and meet applicable regulatory requirements; (2) resolve packaging and transportation issues safely, economically, and promptly; and (3) develop, manage and coordinate policies and procedures for packaging and transportation activities for DOE materials, including hazardous materials (particularly radioactive), substances and wastes.

Radiological shipments are accomplished safely. Annually, about 400 million hazardous materials shipments occur in the United States by rail, air, sea, and land. Of these shipments, about three million are radiological shipments. The DOE Office of Environmental Management has successfully transported over 81,000 hazardous waste shipments in the past five years (2004 – 2008).

The DOE Office of Packaging and Transportation seeks to continuously improve the shipment process by obtaining feedback from all individuals involved in the process. Any comments, questions, or concerns related to DOE packaging and transportation activities should be sent to [askpat@hq.doe.gov](mailto:askpat@hq.doe.gov).

The DOE Office of Packaging and Transportation will review the information provided, then address all safety and security issues as promptly as possible. The privacy of individuals requesting anonymity will be honored by this office to the maximum possible extent.

### Programs Supporting Safe Transportation of Radiological Shipments

#### ■ Transportation Emergency Preparedness Program

TEPP provides the tools for planning, training and exercises, and technical assistance to assist State and Tribal authorities in preparing for response to a transportation incident involving DOE shipments of radioactive material.

#### ■ National Transportation Stakeholders Forum (NTSF)

Collaboration and coordination with jurisdictions along the transportation corridors is key in accomplishing the EM cleanup mission. The purpose of the NTSF is to bring transparency, openness, and accountability to DOE's offsite transportation activities through collaboration with state and tribal governments.

### Packaging Certification Program (Fissile and Type B Packagings)

The Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended, gives DOE broad authorities to regulate all aspects of activities involving radioactive materials that are undertaken by DOE or on its behalf, including transportation. The DOE manages a program for certification of fissile and Type B packagings which conform with U.S. Department of Transportation and U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission requirements. For additional information about the DOE Packaging Certification Program, visit the [Radioactive Material Packaging \(RAMPAC\)](#) website.

The program includes the following:

- providing guidance for preparing Safety Analysis Reports for Packaging,
- reviewing and approving packaging designs,
- issuing DOE Certificates of Compliance
- reviewing and recertifying Certificates of Compliance

#### FEATURED ITEMS

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- curtailing and suspending the use of specific packages, when warranted; and
- reviewing and approving quality assurance programs for Type B and fissile materials radioactive materials packagings.

The Packaging Certification Program conducts routine [training](#) [EXIT](#) for radioactive packaging activities related to Safety Analysis Report for Packagings preparation, and packaging quality assurance, maintenance and operations.

### Packaging and Transportation Operations

DOE successfully completes thousands of shipments each year. The shipments have included a variety of waste types (e.g., transuranic waste [P](#), low-level waste [P](#), mixed low-level waste [P](#), spent nuclear fuel [P](#)) primarily by highway and rail. Under DOE, the **National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA)** [EXIT](#) safely and securely transports nuclear weapons, weapons components, and special nuclear material to meet projected NNSA, Department of Defense, and other customer requirements.

- [Fact Sheets](#)
- [State Fees/Permits for Radioactive Waste and Materials Shipments](#) [P](#) contains a compilation of the State requirements and fees for transporting radioactive shipments through their jurisdictions, as well as points of contact for each State.
- [Issuance of Revised DOE Motor Carrier Evaluation Program Plan and Procedures](#) [P](#)
- [TRANSCOM](#) [EXIT](#) an unclassified tracking and communication system which can monitor the progress of various "high visibility" shipments. Since September 2001, TRANSCOM has been used to monitor over 12,000 DOE high visibility shipments.
- [DOE UN Packaging](#): Types of packaging approved by the United Nations and DOE for use in transporting hazardous materials and hazardous substances.
- [RADCALC](#) [EXIT](#) - Permits registered users to access software used in packaging and transportation determinations.
- [RADTRAN](#) [EXIT](#): Computer code used to conduct transportation risk assessment for radioactive material.
- [TRAGIS](#) [EXIT](#) Transportation Routing Analysis Geographic Information System.
- [ATMS](#) [P](#) Automated Transportation Management System.

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